under Rule 56A or 57A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944 had been availed or in respect of any of the inputs used in the manufacture of export product. To obviate this difficulty and to rule out the possibility of double benefits accruing to the exporters on this account, it has been laid down that material imported under the Duty Exemption Scheme shall be subject to the payment of additional customs duty equal to the excise duty at the time of import and the said additional customs duty is adjustable in the prescribed manner.

South African Proposal for Setting up Indian Ocean Trade Block

5839. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that South Africa has proposed the setting up of an Indian Ocean Trade Block;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has also supported India to join the trade block; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is favourably inclined to the suggestion for cooperation among the Indian Ocean Rim countries.

India recently participated in an expert level meeting of 7 Indian Ocean Rim countries (viz. Australia, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Oman, Singapore and South Africa) convened by Mauritius at Port Louis on March 29-31, 1995. The meeting agreed on the principles objectives and future action programmes of an Indian Ocean Rim Initiative beginning with these seven countries to promote cooperation in trade, investment, science and technology, tourism and human resource development.

MMTC Cheated of Gold Coins

5840. SHRI GHUFRAM AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MMTC was cheated of gold coins worth lakhs of rupees by some representatives of a private firm recently;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the MMTC have taken any steps to recover the dues and propose to change its policy regarding sale of gold; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) On 8.3.1995 one Shri Arun Jain said to be representative of M/s. Sugandh Fragrances, Village Udaipur, Bhiwadi Alwar (Rajasthan) approached MMTC's Delhi Regional Office at Karol Bagh with Pay Order No. 116445 dated 7.3.1995 for Rs. 4,76,206.50 drawn on Canara Bank, Karol Bagh, New Delhi for purchase of 93 Gold Medallions. On receipt of Pay order, MMTC authorised delivery of 93 Gold Medallions to Shri Arun Jain.

The Pay Order was sent to MMTC's bankers, Canara Bank, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi for crediting the amount to MMTC's account on 13th

March,. Subsequently, on 20.3.1995 the bank stated that the Pay Order was forged and the credit given to MMTC was withdrawn.

MMTC has officially taken up this matter with their bankers for restoration of the credit, as the bank had accepted the Pay Order initially; MMTC has also reported the matter to Police for suitable action.

Factoring Companies and SSI Units

5841. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that factoring companies which are now operating "with recourse basis" are not popular among the SSI units; and

(b) whether Government will come forward to recommend factoring services "Without recourse basis" so that the SSI units which are supplying to Government Institutions and Public Sector Undertakings can concentrate on their basiness without worrying on late realisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Levying of Anti-Dumping Duties on Products

5842. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the products on which anti-dumping duties have been levied and what is the extent of anti-dumping duty in each case;

(b) what was the period studied and the CIF price which formed the basis for such a levy;

(c) what factors were kept in view for levy of anti-dumping duty and what is the CIF price at present;

(d) whether it is a fact that anti-dumping duties have been levied to give unintended benefits; and

(e) what are the institutional arrangements for studies based on which such duties are levied and whether it is a fact that duties have been levied based on the considerations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below)

(c) The margin of dumping, the injury margin are the two key factors for determining the anti-dumping duty. The present CIF price is required to be submitted by an interested party seeking review of the anti-dumping duty at a later date, and as of now there is no such submission.

(d) No, Sir. In fact, the levy of anti-dumping duty is restricted to the amount considered necessary to remove material injury to the Indian industry.

(e) The cost of production and fair selling price to the domestic industry are studied by the costing Division of the Ministry of Commerce by visiting the Indian industry. The details of the normal value made available by the exporter are also verified by a verification team of the Ministry of Commerce. The duties are levied based on these studies.